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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

“Father-and-Son” Campaign

One of the results of the recent Father-and-Son Movement started by the Young Men’s Christian Association of Cleveland, Ohio, was a proclamation issued shortly before the holidays by Mayor Baker of that city which urged all fathers in the city to spend New Year’s Day in company with their sons and by corollary all sons in company with their fathers. He said: “If we can as a city people begin the new year with the resolve that our sons shall be more our companions and our fathers more our comrades, it will add both to the sweetness of our private life and to the value of our citizenship.”

Bishop Williams on Union

Preaching from a Baptist pulpit in New York City during the recent Episcopal General Convention, Bishop Williams of Michigan, says the *Missionary Review of the World* for December, used these words: “Still more does the pressure for union come upon us from the mission fields at home and abroad. What do our denominational differences mean to the Chinese and Japanese? This is illustrated in their attempt to translate our denominational names into the Chinese language. The Baptist church becomes the ‘Big Wash church,’ the Presbyterian church, the ‘church of the Ruling Old Men,’ while the Protestant Episcopal church is rendered into ‘the church of the Kicking Overseers.’”

The Sunday-School Council of Evangelical Denominations

The fourth annual meeting of the representatives of the publishing and Sunday-school interests of the thirty-one denominations which compose this council was held in Chicago, January 27-29. The body meets in three sections, editorial, publication, educational. The most important matter

at this meeting was the report of the Committee on Lesson Courses, which had been at work during the year. It appears that the new graded lessons, which most of the denominational publishing houses have given large attention, are presenting great difficulties to the small schools. It was reported from Canada that two-thirds of the schools have a membership not exceeding seventy-five, and that a curriculum involving eighteen simultaneous courses was altogether too elaborate. The question therefore arises whether there could not be a grading by departments instead of by classes, thus reducing the courses to five. If this were adopted it was the opinion of the committee that a new graded course would have to be prepared. This would not supersede the International curriculum but would be an alternative. No definite decision was reached but a meeting was arranged with the Executive Committee of the International Sunday-School Association for April. It is evident that there is still much adjustment to be made in religious educational curriculum.

Death of Professor Charles R. Brown

Professor Charles Rufus Brown was born in East Kingston, New Hampshire, February 22, 1849. He was graduated at the United States Naval Academy in 1869 and served in the United States navy from 1870 to 1875. He was graduated from Harvard University in 1877, and from the Newton Theological Institution in 1879. He studied at the University of Berlin in 1879 and 1880 and at the University of Leipzig in 1880 and 1881. He became associate professor of Old Testament interpretation in the Newton Theological Seminary in 1883, and becoming full professor in 1886 retained this chair until his death February 1, 1914.

Professor Brown was one of the first representatives of Old Testament scholarship

in the country to associate himself with Professor William R. Harper in the work of reviving and promoting the study of Hebrew in the United States. If we mistake not, the two scholars first became acquainted through a contribution which Dr. Brown sent to Dr. Harper to assist in the work of the Institute of Hebrew then recently established by Dr. Harper. The friendship thus begun continued to the end of Dr. Harper's life.

Professor Brown was pre-eminently a teacher. At the very beginning of his work as professor at Newton he published *Aramaic Method* and some ten years ago issued a *Commentary on the Book of Jeremiah with a New Translation*. He was profoundly interested in all the work of the institution of whose faculty he was a member, and in the progress of Christianity throughout the world. But he always gave his best strength to his classes and was rather indisposed to authorship and publication or to work of a more public character than teaching. In this work he rendered a great and valuable service to his generation, and his memory will be cherished both by the successive classes of students who for a period of more than thirty years came under his instruction, and by those of his fellows in the field of scholarship who

enjoyed the rare privilege of his personal friendship.

The New Church Peace Union

On February 10 Mr. Andrew Carnegie established the Church Peace Union and endowed it with a fund of two million dollars. The affairs of the Union will be administered by a board of thirty persons representing the religious forces of the United States, Roman Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant. Mr. Carnegie's recognition of the new social power of the church is exceedingly gratifying, and is in large measure due to the success of the Federal Council. The secretary of the new Peace Union will be Dr. Frederic Lynch, secretary of the Commission of the Federal Council upon Peace and Arbitration. Professor Sidney L. Gulick of Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, and stated lecturer to the Imperial University, is now lecturing under the auspices of the Federal Council on peace union in the interests of a better understanding between the two nations. It is expected that it will be possible to maintain similar lectures in various countries of the world. The Union is not limited by Mr. Carnegie to any single policy, but may undertake whatever course of action would serve to interest the religious forces of the world in international peace.